



POLICY

Department of Family Medicine Postgraduate Program

Home Visits

The provision of care to individuals in a variety of care settings is a cornerstone of Family Medicine. Competency in conducting home visits is identified as a Family Medicine objective and must be encouraged in a manner that is mindful of both resident and patient safety.

PGY1s should not be expected to conduct home visits unaccompanied by either a senior resident or the supervising physician.

For PGY2s, unaccompanied home visits during normal working hours – as defined by the Maritime Resident Doctors contract – are appropriate. Faculty must be available by telephone, and to provide back-up to the resident in person, should the situation dictate. If a resident wish, for personal or patient safety reasons, to request another person to accompany him/her, this should be arranged promptly and without question.

In principle, residents should not make home visits after hours unless they are accompanied, unless the resident is very comfortable with the situation. Note: the accompanying person does not need to be a staff physician (i.e. senior resident, allied health professional).